



# NEWS NOTES

Quarterly Publication of the Southern Maine Library District

Summer 2008

## Portland Library Closed June 30 – July 14

Due to budget constraints, the Portland Public Library is relocating some of its collections and service desks at the downtown library on Monument Square. In order to accomplish the relocation, the library will be closing to the public effective June 30 through July 14.

However **the SMLD Office, the Interlibrary Loan Department, and other staff will be available during these two weeks.** Staff will be moving parts of the collection during the closing – nonfiction and audiovisual items will be in transit.

**In addition beginning July 14, the library will be closed Mondays.** New hours for the Main Library:

Sunday/Monday	Closed
Tuesday/Wednesday/Thursday	10 am – 7 pm
Friday	10 am – 6 pm
Saturday	10 am – 5 pm

Many of the branches will also be changing their hours; check with the branch or the PPL website for further information.

### Summer 2008 Brown Bag lecture Series 12pm-1pm:

July 16	<b>Philip Shelton and Dr. Amy Wood,</b> authors of <i>World Voyagers: The True Story of a Veterinarian, a Renaissance Man, and Stewart the Cat</i>
July 23	<b>Nicholson Baker,</b> author of <i>Human Smoke: The Beginnings of World War II, the End of Civilization</i>
July 30	<b>Linda Greenlaw,</b> author of <i>Fisherman's Bend</i>
August 6	<b>Eve LaPlante,</b> author of <i>Salem Witch Judge: The Life and Repentance of Samuel Sewall</i>
August 20	<b>Sena Jeter Naslund,</b> author of <i>Abundance: A Novel of Marie Antoinette</i> and Jody Lisberger, author of <i>Remember Love: Stories</i>

## Summer Reading Celebration

The Southern Maine Library District has sponsored annual family reading celebrations at the Seashore Trolley Museum in Kennebunkport for seven years. We regret that we are unable to host another event this summer. Although the celebrations were highly successful and drew large numbers of children and their families, the cost and volunteer effort proved too difficult to continue. The Trolley Museum welcomes the opportunity to work with individual libraries. For further information see <http://www.trolley museum.org/>.

## State Librarian to Retire

After 38 years as Maine State Librarian, J. Gary Nichols will be retiring on October 27. In 2004 he received the **Outstanding Librarian** award from the Maine Library Association which honored Nichols for providing all the people of Maine with free and equal access to the wealth of library resources, and for serving "as a visionary in the effort to craft an environment of statewide resource sharing through innovative library cooperation and for exceptional dignity, warmth, grace, and good humor exerted on behalf of the profession."

## Fall Joint Council Meeting

Joan Frye Williams from California will be the guest speaker at the October 3 Joint SMLD/CMLD/NMLD Council Meeting at the Augusta Civic Center. Williams is best known as an acute--and sometimes irreverent--observer of emerging library trends, issues, and practices. She is an internationally recognized library futurist and designer of innovative library services. Williams works with all types of libraries, and since 1996 she has been an independent consultant specializing in innovation, technology, and the service needs and preferences of non-library "civilians." Watch for registration details on the statewide calendar

<http://evanced.info/maine/evanced/eventcalendar.asp>

## New SMLD Board Member

**Mary-Margaret (“Mamie”) Anthoine Ney** was elected to the SMLD Board at the May 23 council meeting. Ney is the director of the South Berwick Public Library and was formerly Assistant Director of the Kennebunk Free Library. She holds an MLIS from the University of South Carolina, JD from the University of Maine School of Law, and MBA from the University of Notre Dame. She represents smaller public libraries on the board.

## Reference Resources

Print copies of the revised **“Bare Bones List of Resources for Small and Medium-Sized Public Libraries in Maine”** were distributed at the SMLD Spring Council Meeting. Produced by a committee of SMLD librarians in cooperation with Bangor and Maine State Library staff, the list is now available on the SMLD website. Although the primary audience for the list is staff from public libraries, it is useful for other types of libraries as well. The revised edition contains recommendations for both print and online resources.

## Reference Assessment

Reference and information services was the major topic for the May 23 SMLD spring meeting. Participants learned about recommended websites and collection tools, learning styles, and handling difficult questions and patrons. At the breakout session covering assessment of references services, it was decided that tools appropriate for Maine libraries are very much needed. How can you decide if your library is handling reference queries effectively and efficiently? Providing this information is one of the SMLD objectives for the coming year.

## Literary Map of Maine

Readers from Texas, Iowa and Canada as well as Maine submitted hundreds of books to the Portland newspaper website for the “Literary Map of Maine project.” **We Took to the Woods** by Louise Dickinson Rich, **A Midwife’s Tale** by Laurel Thatcher Ulrich and **A Country Doctor** by Sarah Orne Jewett were among the titles mentioned by multiple readers. A committee representing Maine Historical Society, Maine Humanities Council, Maine Reads, Maine Women Writers Collection, and the University of Maine will make the final selections. It is anticipated that the print and online versions of the map will be completed this summer. For further information see the Maine State Library website.

## SMLD Plans for FY 09

A **“Technology Fair”** is just one of many objectives for next year planned by the SMLD Board at its annual retreat June 13 at the Wells Reserve Coastal Resource Library. Perhaps because the weather and facilities were so outstanding for the meeting, the board made excellent progress with plans for next year. **Teen programming, WebJunction, graphic novels, copyright and “green” tips** are among the other topics for the coming year.

## Library Trustee Forums

Over 100 public library trustees attended May meetings held at Maine public libraries throughout the state: **Casco, Ellsworth, Rockland, Springvale, and Waterville**. At each meeting trustees were given demonstrations of selected MARVEL! databases and WebJunction resources. They also discussed seven case studies based on real life issues in Maine libraries. A trustee steering committee is working with the Maine Library Trustee Association and the District Consultants on plans for next year which include more continuing education opportunities.

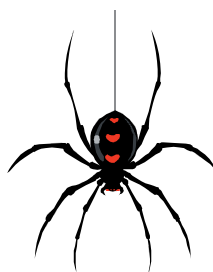
## Children’s & YA Book Review

**Times and dates for summer book review meetings have been changed** as follows:

- July 15 instead of July 8
- August date remains the same (Aug. 14)
- New time for July & August: 4:30-7:00

Meetings are held at the Portland Public Library in Room 416. Review copies of new children’s and young adult books are reviewed. Pre-registration not necessary.

## Performers’ Showcase



Tarantulas and scorpions, puppets and singers, musicians, magicians, and storytellers will be featured at the SMLD Performers’ Showcase being held **Wednesday, September 17 at the Freeport Community Library**. The showcase is free; however registration is required.

Details will be posted on the statewide calendar later this summer.

## SMLD IT Group Discusses New Technologies

Content management systems, time management systems, thin clients, IT job descriptions, and policies were discussed at the May 1st meeting of IT librarians held at the Parsons Memorial Library in Alfred. See the group's Wiki on Maine's WebJunction page.

If your position includes IT as a major responsibility, you are welcome to attend the **next meeting – September 25 at the Curtis Library in Brunswick**. Please register on the statewide calendar.

## Library Makeovers

Three of the five scheduled public library Makeovers have been completed this year. The **Underwood Memorial Library in Fayette, Canaan Public Library, and Pembroke Library Association** received one day Makeovers and \$200 checks for future purchases. The following comments from participants are typical: "The experience was exhilarating." "Beautiful!"

Makeover teams discarded books, furniture and equipment and left each library looking less cluttered and easier to use.

Makeovers are scheduled for August at libraries in **Buckfield and Winthrop**. Regional library staff; Tucker Library Group staff; and library staff, board members and volunteers work on the Makeovers.

## Maine Festival of the Book



at the Portland Public Library.

The SMLD Public Relations Committee organized an exhibit of MARVEL resources and information about the "Literary Map of Maine" at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Festival of the Book held May 17 in Portland. Baxter the Library Mascot waved to passersby on Monument Square

## Public Library Directors' Institute

**New spaces for teens, self-service checkout, laptop loans, "theming," different configurations and furniture for computer users, and gaming** were among the library trends discussed by Massachusetts Library consultant Cheryl Bryan at the 12<sup>th</sup> annual Institute held June 10 at the Augusta Civic Center. She said food and covered drinks are now common in libraries, and that many libraries are providing outdoor seating for patrons who access wireless networks when libraries are closed. A lively discussion about **public library statistics** resulted in the formation of a volunteer committee who will work on recommended methods for keeping standardized numbers.

## Around the District

**Goodall Memorial Library in Sanford** recently received a sum of \$300,000 from the A. Faye Goodwin Trust which can be used for furnishings, books, and equipment. It was used to purchase 20 new computers. The library also received 120 acres of forest land which is being managed under the Woods Wise Incentive Program with a forest management plan in place.

The **Graves Library in Kennebunkport** and **Thomas Memorial Library in Cape Elizabeth** recently revised their library websites. The Graves Library uses Contribute and the Cape library uses Dreamweaver.

**Rice Library in Kittery** is using grant funds to design a new space for teens in an upstairs room of the original library building.

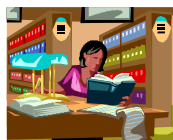
The town of Cape Elizabeth has issued a \$75,000 contract to the Wisconsin library consulting firm Himmel & Wilson for the **Thomas Memorial Library**. The contract specifies a needs assessment [building program] and schematic designs due by January 1, 2009.

The board of the **Parsonsfield Public Library** has voted to close the library, and will be making decisions this summer about the building and its contents. The library has had difficulty providing resources for the community. Patrons will be able to use the other Parsonsfield facility – the Kezar Falls Library.

## People

### *New appointments*

**Shelly Davis**, Director, St Joseph's College, Standish (formerly at University of Maine Farmington)



**Deanna Gouzie**, Children's Librarian, McArthur Public Library, Biddeford (formerly Youth Services Librarian, Baxter Memorial Library, Gorham)

**Corrine Henning-Sachs**, Youth Services Librarian, Walker Memorial Library, Westbrook

**Dale Jandreau**, Director, Naples Public Library

**Stephanie Limmer**, Director, Kennebunk Free Library

**Dora St. Martin**, Director, McArthur Public Library, Biddeford (formerly Director, Pollard Library, Lowell, MA)

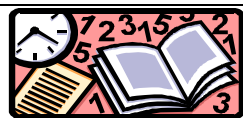
**James Rathbun**, Public Services Librarian, Baxter Memorial Library, Gorham

### *Resignation*

**Paul D'Alessandro**, Reference Librarian, Portland Public Library

### *Recognition*

**Janet Cowen**, Librarian, Maine Medical Center, Portland, received the 2008 Cairns Award from HSLIC



## New Professional Collection Titles

Contact the SMLD Office to make suggestions for additional purchases. Tel. 871-1766 or 1-800-649-7696, e-mail: [SMLD@portland.lib.me.us](mailto:SMLD@portland.lib.me.us)

See website for complete list of titles:

<http://www.state.me.us/msl/smdl/professional.html>

***Babies in the Library.* Jane Marino. Scarecrow Press, Inc., 2003**



"Librarians will welcome this resource from a veteran of children's librarianship and a valued expert in the field." School Library Journal. Contents include coverage of prewalkers and walkers, rhymes, recordings, board books and professional resources.

## Meeting Registrations

The online meeting registration system on the statewide calendar at WebJunction is working well. We would like to clarify the registration process.

**Please note:** For meetings requiring payment, until we receive your payment, you are not officially registered. When we confirm numbers with caterers and facilities, we will only state the number of **paid registrations**.



## Calendar

Please register for all SMLD programs and workshops on the statewide WebJunction Community Calendar - <http://evanced.info/maine/evanced/eventcalendar.asp>

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|---------------------|--|
| <b>June 27</b>      | <b>Public Library Directors (Yapping Yorkies)</b><br>William Fogg Library, Eliot, 9:30 a.m.          |
| <b>July 15</b>      | <b>SMLD Children's &amp; YA Book Review.</b><br>Portland Public Library, 4:30-7:00                   |
| <b>July 24</b>      | <b>Public Library Directors (Chattering Cheeses)</b> New Gloucester Public Library, 9 am             |
| <b>July 25</b>      | <b>Meeting for Reference Librarians.</b> Southern Maine Community College, South Portland, 9:30-Noon |
| <b>August 14</b>    | <b>SMLD Children's &amp; YA Book Review.</b><br>Portland Public Library, 4:30-7:00                   |
| <b>September 15</b> | <b>Public Library Directors (Talking Heads)</b><br>Rice Public Library, Kittery, 2:30-4:30 p.m.      |
| <b>September 17</b> | <b>Performers' Showcase.</b> Freeport Community Library  |
| <b>September 25</b> | <b>IT Meeting.</b> Curtis Memorial Library, Brunswick, 9:30-11:30 a.m.                               |
| <b>September 26</b> | <b>Friends of Maine Libraries Conference</b>   |
| <b>October 3</b>    | <b>Joint Council Meeting.</b> Augusta Civic Center   |

**FMI: See the Maine Library Community calendar**  
<http://evanced.info/maine/evanced/eventcalendar.asp>